

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, after the title, please insert as follows:

This application is a continuation of PCT International Application No.

PCT/JP02/13179, filed in Japanese on 17 December 2002, which designated the US.

PCT/JP02/13179 claims priority to JP Application No. 2001-386657 filed 19 December 2001 and JP Application No. 2002-8918 filed 17 January 2002. The entire contents of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 23, as follows:

6. A process according to the above aspect ~~1~~ 4, wherein a means for the gas-liquid separation is a gas-liquid separation tank equipped with a pressure controlling apparatus.